

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1944 relating to the work of the Public Health Department.

### SODBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

During the year under review and it is to be hoped that the present 'Team' will remain sufficiently long to ensure a continuity of policy and action so essential to the efficient functioning of a Department.

Although this report, which includes that of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, is fairly comprehensive, I hope to submit a fuller report for 1945 and trust that conditions will enable the document to be printed as a leaflet.

My thanks are due to all Officers and Members of the Council who have assisted me during the year.

### ANNUAL REPORT

Yours faithfully,

J. J. JONES, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

St. Asaph, 1945.

### (a) General Statistics MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Area of District	32,537 acres
Population (1944) (estimated)	25,900
Estimated number inhabited houses (1944) (estimated)	9,118
Estimated Value	£173,000
Rate represented by 1000	273.5. 3d.

### (b) FOR THE YEAR

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Live Births	Legitimate	378	308	317	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1944	21.0
	Illegitimate	39	20	18		
Still Births	Legitimate	11	11	20	Rate per 1,000 total (Live & still births)	32.0
	Illegitimate	1	1	-		

Deaths

(Serial Number of Report - 32)

Infants under 1 yr.	Legitimate	24	10	8
	Illegitimate	3	1	3

Deaths (Total)		304	231	165	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	22.0
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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1944 relating to the work of the Public Health Department.

There have been changes in the Inspectorate during the year under review and it is to be hoped that the present 'team' will remain sufficiently long to ensure a continuity of policy and action so essential to the efficient functioning of a department.

Although this report, which includes that of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, is fairly comprehensive, I hope to submit a fuller report for 1945 and trust that conditions will enable the document to be printed as customary.

My thanks are due to all Officers and Members of the Council who have assisted me during the year.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

J. MENLIES CORMACK.

Medical Officer of Health.

## S T A T I S T I C S 1944

### (a) General Statistics

Area of District	68,557 acres
Population (Registrar-General's estimate mid-1944)	33,700
Estimated number inhabited houses (December -Rate Books)	9,112
Rateable Value	£173,958
Sum represented by penny rate	£732. 6s. 8d.

### (b) Extracts from Vital Statistics

		Tot:	M	F		
Live Births -	Legitimate	676	359	317	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident popula- tion mid-1944	21.0
	Illegitimate	38	20	18		
Still Births -	Legitimate	21	11	10	Rate per 1,000 total (Live & still births)	30.0
	Illegitimate	1	1	-		
<u>Deaths</u>						
Infants under 1 yr. -	Legitimate	24	16	8		
	Illegitimate	3	1	2		
Deaths (Total)		334	171	163	Death rate per 1,000 estimated average popula- tion	9.9







# S O D B U R Y   R U R A L   D I S T R I C T

## Composition of District-

Parishes of Chipping Sodbury, Old Sodbury, Little Sodbury, Westerleigh, Puckleschurch, Dodington, Dyrham, Wick and Abson, Doynton, Cold Ashton, Marshfield, Tormarton, Acton Turville, Great Badminton, Horton, Hawkesbury, Alderley, Wickwar, Yate, Frampton Cotterell, Iron Acton, Winterbourne, Filton and Stoke Gifford.

### Chairman of Council

W.G. Forrest, Esq., J.P., Cote Bank, North Road, Yate.

### Clerk to Council

L.C. St. Leger Yeend, A.C.I.S., A.L.A.A.

### Medical Officer of Health

J. Menzies Cormack, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

### Inspectorate

Chief Sanitary Inspector	C. Setchell M.S.I.A. (to June, 1944)
Chief Sanitary Inspector	R.S. Shears M.S.I.A. (from July, 1944)
Inspectors	H.S. Hale M.S.I.A. F. Evans M.S.I.A.
Pupil	J. Norris

### Clerks

Mrs. E. Jay  
Mrs. L.M. Couzens

### Sewage Works Attendants

S. Huggins	Yate Works
H. Gothard	Wickwar Works
W. Hicks	Marshfield Works

### Water Works

E. Pincott	Plumber
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TABLE SHOWING INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS 1944

	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	1	7	9	8	40	9	4	1	-	1	-	80
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	6
Pneumonia	1	-	-	1	-	4	6	2	7	2	1	3	27
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	1	-	-	-	6
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	5
Measles	2	3	8	4	7	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	36
Whooping Cough	17	20	27	17	31	32	2	-	1	-	-	-	147
Erythema	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	-	7
Diphtheria	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	7



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TABLE SHOWING INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN PARISHES

1944

Parish	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Scarlet Fever	Para Typhoid	Measles	Whoop Cough	Enteric Fever	Polio-myelitis
Framp. Cotterell	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	4	-	-
Stoke Gifford	-	17	-	-	-	6	-	-	4	-	-
Filton	6	3	5	3	1	32	-	27	57	-	-
Frenchay	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	-	-
Iron Acton	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	2	-	-
Chipping Sodbury	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	8	-	-
Yate	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	11	-	-
Winterbourne	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	13	-	-
Coalpit Heath	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	-
Badminton	-	1	-	1	-	3	-	-	1	-	-
Old Sodbury	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-
Doddington	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	-	-
Marshfield	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	10	-	-
Wickwar	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	2	-	-
Hawkesbury	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	10	-	-
Wick	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	14	-	-
Pucklechurch	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-
Alderley	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tornarton	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dyrham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Doynton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-
TOTALS	7	27	6	7	6	80	-	36	147	-	-







# TUBERCULOSIS

## NEW CASES AND DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS.

1944

AGE	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
1 - 5 years	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	-
5 - 15 years	1	1	2	2	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 years	10	10	1	3	3	3	-	-
25 - 35 years	11	13	2	2	3	1	-	-
35 - 45 years	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
45 - 55 years	3	2	1	1	-	1	-	-
55 - 65 years	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
65 upwards	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:	37	27	8	8	15	2	2	-







TABLE SHOWING PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

1944

Cause of Death	Und. 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-	Total
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
5. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Tuberculosis of resp.system	-	-	-	3	8	4	-	-	15
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
8. Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
9. Influenza	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
10. Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Acute poliomyelitis & polioencephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Acute infectious encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13M Cancer of buccal cavity & oesophagus (males only)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13F Cancer of uterus	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	4
14. Cancer of stomach & duodenum	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	4	9
15. Cancer of breast	-	-	-	-	2	4	1	-	7
16. Cancer of all other sites	-	-	-	-	3	11	10	13	37
17. Diabetes	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	2	6
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	-	-	-	-	1	10	11	12	34
19. Heart Disease	-	-	-	-	5	12	23	51	91
20. Other diseases of the circulatory system	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	6
21. Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	4	9
22. Pneumonia	5	2	-	-	1	1	3	6	18
23. Other respiratory diseases	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2	6
24. Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	4
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs.of age)	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
26. Appendicitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
27. Other digestive diseases	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	3	7
28. Nephritis	-	-	1	-	3	1	1	3	9
29. Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30. Other maternal causes	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
31. Premature birth	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile dis.	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
33. Suicide	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3
34. Road Traffic accidents	-	-	2	-	2	1	-	1	6
35. Other violent causes	1	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	5
36. All other causes	1	-	1	-	2	7	6	12	29
T O T A L S	25	4	4	5	37	69	68	122	334







# ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR 1944

## ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO

HOUSING

SEWERS AND SEWERAGE

WATER SUPPLIES

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### HOUSING

Repairs to houses have been an even growing and complex problem due to the "bottle neck" of Labour. It has been the policy to secure urgent repairs to property in order to keep them wind and watertight but the mobilisation of practically all the remaining labour to cope with the urgent repairs required in the Metropolitan Area caused by the flying bombs and rockets made this aim increasingly difficult.

Circular 64/44 was received in May, 1944 together with a copy of a report on Rural Housing prepared by a Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Sir Arthur Hobhouse. This report now invariably referred to as the Hobhouse Report will I trust inaugurate a new era in the standards to be achieved in the future for all rural houses. Although the survey required by the Minister was intended to be commenced after the "County Standard" had been made, the Council commenced the Survey in September 1944 and 1,124 houses had been inspected by the end of the year and placed in the following categories:-

	<u>No.</u>
Category 1. Satisfactory in all respects	426
Category 2. Minor defects	343
Category 3. Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement.	280
Category 4. Appropriate for reconditioning under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts	-
Category 5. Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense.	75

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TOTAL	1,124
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The results of the Survey to date clearly indicate the low standard at present prevailing in the rural parts of the Area and the Council's programme of rehousing is bound to be formidable. In addition Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister and yet to be implemented involve a total of 25 houses.

Applications for Council Houses December, 1944 totalled 650 and is an indication of the overcrowding which exists. The expansion of war industries in the area has increased the difficulties and many erstwhile town dwellers will wish to continue to reside in the Area.

The total number of houses provided by the Council under the Housing Acts to date is 820.

### Statistics

	<u>No.</u>
Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	166
Number found to require repairs	77
Informal notices served	60
Informal notices not complied with at end of year	7
Statutory Notices served	16
Statutory Notices not complied with at end of year	2
Number of visits made for reinspection and supervision of repairs	180
Visits in respect of Overcrowding	11
Houses found to be unfit for habitation	1
(N.B. The Survey figures aforementioned are excluded)	

### SEWERS AND SEWERAGE

There are three Sewage Disposal Works situated at Yate, Wickwar and Marshfield.

The Works at Yate are heavily overloaded and there is no reserve capacity to provide for even moderate rainfall which is quickly reflected in an increased flow at the works. There are two contributory factors for this increased flow:-

- (a) Roof water is being diverted to the soil sewer.
- (b) Surface water infiltration.

The primary and secondary filtration dealing with their maximum quantity of sewage does nowever produce a surprisingly good effluent.

The Wickwar Works have inadequate provision for sludge drying rendering it difficult to empty the settlement tanks as often as is necessary to prevent septicity. Filter beds cannot be expected to treat satisfactorily a septic sewage and the works will need to be modernised.

The Marshfield Works are of modern design and capable of producing an effluent up to the Royal Commission Standard. The influent is a rather strong domestic sewage. There is no provision for storm water and although in small designs of this nature it is not unusual to omit this feature I feel it is a retrograde step in these particular works. The retaining walls of the filter beds are of local stone and are weathering badly.







## WATER SUPPLIES

The area is served by a private utility Company, The West Gloucestershire Water Company, except for the Parish of Hawkesbury where the Council are the water undertakers.

### Circular 49/45

(i) The supplies afforded have on the whole been satisfactory in quality from the bacteriological standpoint and in quality. The reduction of temporary hardness prior to distribution would however be of advantage to the individual, the industrialist and would prolong the life of domestic hot water installations and appliances.

(ii) Examination of the water going into supply.

#### West Gloucestershire

74 examinations

#### Results

69 examinations B.Coli absent in 100 m.l.

5 examinations B.Coli present in 100 m.l.

The five samples showing contamination were derived from the only uncovered reservoir in the area. This is to be covered when circumstances permit.

#### Hawkesbury Water Supply

12 examinations

#### Results

10 examinations B.Coli absent in 100 c.c.'s

2 examinations B.Coli present in 100 c.c.'s.

The two samples reported as showing slight bacterial contamination were remedied by adjustments to the automatic chlorinating plant.

(iii) The waters supplied are not plumbo-solvent.

(iv) As indicated.

(v) Proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of the population supplied from public water mains.

(a) direct to houses	81.5%
(b) by means of Standpipes	2.35%

### WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE WATER SUPPLY

Results of chemical analysis expressed in parts per 100,000  
Examined by Charles W. Martin F.R.I.C., Gordon Miles B.Sc. F.R.I.C.

	<u>Frampton Output</u>	<u>California Output</u>	<u>Shipton Moyne Output</u>
Calcium carbonate	15.5	17.0	18.0
Magnesium carbonate	7.3	4.9	3.8
Sodium carbonate	5.1	10.2	2.1
Sodium sulphate	9.3	16.6	6.5
Sodium chloride	4.3	9.9	7.6
Sodium nitrate		1.1	
Silica	1.2	0.8	1.0
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Total solids dried @ 180°C	43.5	61.0	40.0
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	<u>Frampton Output</u>	<u>California Output</u>	<u>Shipton Moyne Output</u>
Temporary hardness	24.0	22.5	22.5
Permanent hardness	0.0	0.0	0.5
Free Ammonia	0.0044	0.0032	0.0084
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs @ 80°F	0.015	0.020	0.005
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.00	0.18	0.00
Nitrogen in Nitrates	Absent	Absent	less than 0.001
Metals	Absent	Iron 0.007	0.055

### HAWKESBURY WATER SUPPLY

Result of chemical analysis expressed in parts per 100,000  
Date December, 1944. Examined by the County Analyst

Total Dissolved Solids	34.3	Mineral Ammonia	0.0024
Combined Chlorine	1.7	Organic Ammonia	0.0008
Nitrogen present as Nitrates	0.016	Temporary Hardness	20.5
Nitrogen present as Nitrites	Absent	Permanent Hardness	9.5

Oxygen required to oxidise the organic matter in 3 hours. None

#### Remarks

The analysis shows that this water in its present condition is satisfactory for a public supply.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### (a) MILK

##### Production and Distribution

Total number of registered Cowkeepers	...	...	408
Total number of registered retail Dairies	...	...	4
Retail purveyors with registered premises outside the District	...	...	5

##### Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936 - 1942

Licences granted by the Gloucester County Council :-

Accredited Producers	...	...	...	91
Tubercular Tested Producers	...	...	...	13

##### Supplementary Licences granted by the Council

Sale of Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	4
Sale of Tuberculin Tested milk	...	...	...	1
Bottling Establishments Licenced (T.T.)	...	...	...	1

267 Inspections were made of Cowsheds and Dairies and the closest co-ordination exists with the County Health Department in matters relating to the issue of licences to produce designated milks. Improvements were made to many Cowsheds and Dairies during the year.

8 Samples of milk were taken and submitted for bacteriological purposes.

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(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

(i) The number of animals (carcasses and offal) inspected at the Westerleigh Abattoir, which deals with animal of low category was as follows:-

Cattle including Calves	2,333
Sheep and Lambs	72
Pigs	43

The weight of meat condemned as being unfit for human consumption was as follows:-

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Beef	48	12	-	-
Mutton and Lamb	-	5	1	12
Pork	-	-	-	-
	48	17	1	12

The incidence of disease in food animals slaughtered is shown in the following table.

	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2300	33	72	43
Number inspected	2300	33	72	43
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	5	1	8	-
Carcasses of which some portion or organ were condemned	375	2	12	-
Percentage of number inspected infected with disease other than Tuberculosis	16.52%	9.09%	27.77%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	184	3	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	716	3	-	-
Percentage of number inspected infected with Tuberculosis	39.13%	18.18%	-	-

(ii) Other Foods Condemned

Canned Meats	...	...	...	...	...	...	93 tins
Canned Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	96 tins
Canned Fruits	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 tins
Canned Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...	327 tins
Canned Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	56 tins
Canned Soups	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 tins
Eggs	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 doz.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 lbs.
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	...	169 lbs.
Lard	...	...	...	...	...	...	112 lbs.
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 cwt.
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	...	77 lbs.
Kippers	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 lbs.
Sausage Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 lbs.
Calves Sweetbreads	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 lbs.







(iii) Food and Drugs Act 1938

Number of Premises registered for the manufacture of Preserved Foods     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	37
Number of Premises registered for the manufacture and for the Sale of Ice Cream     ...     ...     ...     ...	4
Number of Premises registered for sale and storage of Ice Cream     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	20

SCABIES ORDER 1941

Treatment of Verminous Conditions

It is fortunate that in this district we have been able to provide facilities at the Evacuee Sick Bay, Chipping Sodbury, for the treatment of verminous conditions among children and adults.

Treatment can be obtained on any week day at 10 a.m. when routine treatment can be given immediately. It has been found in practice that two or sometimes three attendances are necessary to complete the treatment.

Children suffering from verminous conditions complicated by Infectious skin conditions are readily admitted to the Sick Bay and this again has been found in practice extremely useful.

Arrangements have also been completed whereby persons in Filton are treated at the Bristol City Clinic in order to avoid the awkward journey to Chipping Sodbury. When it is found necessary in the future to close down this Evacuee Sick Bay alternative arrangements will be required.



TABLE OF ACHIEVEMENTS

THEATRE

Visits made to the theatre .....

DISSEMINATION

Inspection and discussion of practice .....

BRAIN

Number of brains inspected .....

Number of brains dissected .....

Visits for supervision of work .....

Number of brains inspected .....

Number of brains dissected .....

Number of brains inspected .....

Number of brains dissected .....

FOOD

Visits to the food department .....

Visits to the food department .....

Inspection of the food department .....

Inspection of the food department .....

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Amusement places and hotels .....

Factories inspected .....

Smoke observations .....

Motorists inspected .....

Schools .....

Public conveniences .....

Sanitary measures and food inspection .....

Inspection of water supply .....

Inspection of street cleaning .....

Complaints investigated .....

Control of public places .....

Unsanitary visits .....

INSPECTIONS UNDER

Shop acts .....

Prohibition acts and orders .....

WATER SUPPLY

Number of visits in respect of .....

Number of samples taken .....

Sanitary measures carried out .....

Number complied with (main connections) .....